Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GW, TU, GR, PFOR

SUBJECT: FRG COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN GREECE AND TURKEY

REF: BONN 0796

FOR AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND

- 1. PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING ORAL MESSAGE TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT FROM SECRETARY CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.
- 2. BEGIN ORAL MESSAGE:

I VERY MUCH APPRECIATED HEARING THE VIEWS YOU EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND PRIOR TO THE HELSINGOR CONFERENCE. MY MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN GAVE ME A SECRET

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FORTUITOUS OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN SOMETHING OF THE NATURE OF

YOUR DISCUSSIONS THERE, AND I KNOW FROM HIM AND FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT YOU PERSONALLY PLAYED A MOST CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE. I WOULD OF COURSE WELCOME ANY CONCLUSIONS YOU WOULD WISH TO SHARE WITH US

- 3. I ALSO APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IN GIVING AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND YOUR IMPRESSIONS OF YOUR RECENT VISIT TO GREECE. I TOO AM MUCH IMPRESSED BY WHAT CARAMANLIS HAS BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH SINCE MID-1974, AND HIS CONTINUANCE IN OFFICE IS PERHAPS OUR BEST HOPE THAT A VIABLE CYPRUS SOLUTION CAN EVENTUALLY BE REACHED AND PROGRESS MADE TOWARD NORMALIZING GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS.
- 4. WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN OVER THE POLITICAL SITUATION WITHIN TURKEY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE KIND OF FLEXI-BILITY THAT IS NECESSARY IF THERE IS TO BE PROGRESS TOWARD A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. WITH RESPECT TO YOUR QUESTION CON-CERNING OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE POSSIBILITY OF THE MILITARY TAKING OVER AGAIN IN ANKARA, WE DO NOT JUDGE THIS AS LIKELY IN THE SHORT RUN. HOWEVER IT IS CLEAR THAT THE MILITARY IS CONCERNED OVER THE EXTENT OF STUDENT UNREST AND THE CAPACITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH THIS AND OTHER PROBLEMS FACING TURKEY. THAT INCLUDES CYPRUS AND ON THIS ISSUE WE HAVE SPOKEN ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS RECENTLY TO THE MILITARY LEADERSHIP AND HAVE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY MOVEMENT ON CYPRUS AS A PRECONDITION TO THE NORMALI-ZATION OF US-TURKISH SECURITY TIES. BOTH GENERAL HAIG AND ADMIRAL TURNER HAVE SPOKEN ALONG THESE LINES TO GENERAL SANCAR AND OTHER TURKISH MILITARY LEADERS IN RECENT WEEKS. I APPRECIATE THAT YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT TALKED AT LENGTH TO SANCAR IN GERMANY LAST SUMMER ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING INTACT TURKEY'S SECURITY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WEST, BUT COUNSEL FROM YOU AND OTHERS IN GERMANY TO SANCAR AND HIS STAFF NOW COULD BE MOST HELPFUL IN EXPLAINING THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY TURKISH MOVEMENT ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE. I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH YOU ON THIS COMPLEX OF ISSUES. END ORAL MESSAGE. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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